20-25 billions over the next fifteen years taking over of all the express-ways in India; and

(b) if so, at what stage this ambitious scheme rests now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The Malayasian firm has evinced keen interest to invest about 20 billion US$ (approx. equivalent to Rs. 60,000 crore) in the construction of 10,000 km. network of Expressways in the country during the recent visit of a High level delegation to Malayasia. However, it is too early to specify the position for its implementation as the discussions were mainly of exploratory nature.

Training programme for Road Traffic personnel

2264. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been reported that about 60,000 people die in road accidents every year in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Chairman, Road Traffic Safety and Environment in the Central Road Research Institute has pointed out that on an average one person dies in road accident in every eight and half minutes and a road mishap occurs every minute in the country;

(c) whether Government have selected 23 major cities for conducting training programmes for their road traffic personnal;

(d) what is the number of programmes that were undertaken for road safety during the last year; and

(e) what are the other preventive measures being considered to reduce the casualty figures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per information available with the Government one person dies every 8.89 minutes and one road mishap occurs every 1.90 minutes in the country.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details regarding the number of programmes that were undertaken for road safety during the last year are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(e) The details regarding steps being taken are gien in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Details regarding the Road Safety programmes undertaken during last year

1. A National Highway Patrolling Scheme was introduced under which the State Governments of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and West Bengal were provided financial assistance for the procurement of Cranes and Ambulances for removing broken down vehicles and providing immediate relief to accident victims on National Highways.

2. The State Governments of Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Chandigarh Admn., Automobile Association of Eastern India asd some voluntary organisations like Gram Sewa Mandal, Dudu, Rajasthan, Krishna District Lorry Association, Andhra Pradesh were provided financial assistance to carry out road safety campaings.

3. Delhi Energy Development Agency was provided grant for procurement of Simulators for Driving School.

4. Training programmes for traffic personnel ranging from 4 to 7 days were conducted in 11 metropolitan cities namely Varanasi, Vadodra, Surat, Bhopal, Ludhiana, Cochin, Coimbatore, Visakhapatnam, Patna, Madurai and Indore.

5. Some handbills to disseminate road safety culture were got prepared for distribution to various agencies.

6. National Association of Critical Care Medicine (India), a Voluntary Organisation in Delhi was provided financial assistance who gave one-day training to 6500 Drivers in Delhi.

7. A Road Safety Week was organised in the month of January, 1993 and 1994, throughout the country to spread messages of Road Safety.

Statement-II

The details regarding the steps taken being indlude :

1. Formal training in a driving school is made a pre-requiste for issuance of licence to drive transport vehicles.

2. Maximum safe laden weights have been prescribed for trucks including light commercial vehicles.

3. Maximum speed limits have been prescribed for all vehicles except light motor vehicles.

4. Uniform intervals for checking the fitness of vehicles have been prescribed throughout the country.

5. It is prescribed that road safety devices would be fitted in the vehicles viz. direction indicators with blinker system for vehicles, special lables on carriages carrying dangerous or hazardus goods.

6. A National Road Safety Council has been set up for formulation of road safety measures. State Governments were also requested to set up State level road safety councils.

The State Govts. have also been advised to take action on following lines

1. Strict and rigid enforcement of traffic rules and regulations.

2. Regular special drive against rash and negligent driving, driving without driving licences, drunken driving, defecutive headlights, over-speeding, over-loading etc.

3. Regular prosecution of violation through issue of notices.

4. Introduction of blinkers/signals at accident prone areas.

5. More Ptlice presence in accident prone areas.

6. Special morning drives and night mobile patrolling.

7. Painting of bus boxes, yellow boxes.

8. Special night checking on Highways.

9. Special drive against buses, HTVs, TSHs, Taxis etc.

Development of National Highways through Govt. Sector and Private Entrepreneurs in West Bengal

2265 SHRI MD. SALIM:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether wayside amenities alongwith NHs are proposed to be developed under Government sector scheme as well as through private entrepreneurs under private scheme;

(b) if so, the details of Government sector schemes under this category in West Bengal.

(c) whether any offer from any entrepreneur has been received in this respect for NHs in West Bengal; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTHY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes Sir.